Prohibition of "Smoke."—A Bill to prohibit the nuisance of smoke from furnaces or manufactories was some time ago brought into the House of Commons by Mr. Mackinnon, Mr. William Beckett, and Lord Francis Egerton, and is now reprinted as amended by the committee of the whole House. The number of clauses is twenty-four. Occupiers of furnaces are required, under certain penalties, to prevent the issue of "opaque" smoke for more than a certain length of time in the twenty-four hours—that is to say, from any chimney from which is emitted the smoke of one furnace only, for a longer period in the whole than twelve minutes in every three consecutive hours; and from every chimney from which is emitted the smoke of two furnaces, for a longer period in the whole than twenty-four minutes in every three consecutive hours, and so on in proportion; forty-eight minutes in every three consecutive hours being the *maximum*. "Opaque" smoke is defined by clause 2 to be smoke not transparent at the point of its exit from the chimney. The Bill, however, will not pass this session.

Improvements at the Tower.—The contemplated improvements at this ancient fortress, which have been laid before his Grace the Duke of Wellington, the Constable of the Tower, and been approved, will forthwith be commenced. The old armoury, which was destroyed by fire, has been cleared away to make room for the new barracks. The ditches are all well dried up, and sewers have been cut to carry off the soil. What was formerly a putrid and stagnant moat round the Tower will very shortly form a fine esplanade, gravelled over and planted with trees for the recreation of the garrison.

Metropolitan Improvements.—The Vauxhall Bridge Company have commenced building a pier on the plan of the one at the Southwark Bridge. Mr. Cubitt, the extensive builder, has erected a row of houses on the west side of the gas-works, called Curtain-road, which conceals that unsightly building. He has completed the road 60 feet wide alongside the water. The government will complete the remainder to Battersea Bridge.—*Morning Herald.*

The Hungerford Suspension Bridge is at length progressing rapidly towards completion; the whole of the eight patent wire lengths of rope have been carried over. Several of the directors were present, and witnessed the successful suspension of the first link of the massive chains.

The New Cemetery.—This picturesque spot will, in the course of a few months, be further embellished by the addition of a most elegant mausoleum, of beautiful design, the Messrs. Reeves having received instructions from the executors of Mr. Pratt (whose remains were a few weeks since deposited in the cemetery) to execute the same. We understand that the mausoleum will be composed wholly of Italian marble.—*Bath Herald.*

The Patent Metallic Cement.—This cement, which has lately been so much introduced to the City, is now being used by Messrs. W. Cubitt and Co., on the new Gresham Club-House, adjoining Smith, Payne, and Smith's Banking-house, and has a very beautiful and stone-like appearance.

County of Essex Grammar School, Felstead.—The foundation of this institution is now settled, the funds having been correctly ascertained, and a scheme is in preparation for the future management of the school and charities. An upper and lower school are contemplated.

Trinity College, Perth.—Operations have commenced on Mr. Patton's estate of Cairnies, now finally fixed on as the site. The contractor for the mason-work is Mr. Buchan, who carried on and completed the additions to Abercairney Abbey.

The New Gas Burner in Paris.—The column in the place du Carousel, for making trial of an enormous gas burner, was terminated on Monday. It is of the Doric order, about 30 feet high. The pedestal is of cut stone, and the rest of common masonry.

Southampton.—The erections of the sheds and buildings at Northam on the show-ground for the Royal Agricultural Society occupy fifteen acres of land, being seven acres larger than those built at Derby last year.

Anecdote of Lough the Sculptor.—When Mr. Lough, the sculptor, first arrived in London, his purse was an exact antithesis to his mind; for the first was certainly trash, but the latter pregnant with the beauties of his art, which he has since stamped on his creations. He took lodgings in a humble habitation (a shoemaker's, we believe), and there commenced forming the clay which eventually became his "Milo rending the oak." This magnificent work is of large dimensions—not quite colossal, but certainly too large to be comfortable in an attic. The sculptor worked on and completed it all but the upper portion, which required greater height. How was this to be managed? He would not leave his work incomplete, but what could he do? The thought at last struck him to break through the roof of his apartment, which, after sundry qualms, he ventured to do. His invariable custom had been to keep the door of his room locked, and now came the awful moment to make known to his landlord the dilapidations which had occurred to his property. With fear and trembling the poor sculptor led him to the room, expecting the most summary legal punishment for the injury he had committed. When the shoemaker, however, beheld his work, he was so enraptured with its beauty, that he said not a word about the injured ceiling, and gave him a pair of razors—all the poor fellow had at the moment to offer—as a memento that the kindly feelings of a man in so humble a rank of life were thus called forth at the sight of Mr. Lough's first great production. We need hardly add in what value the gift is to this day estimated.—*Birmingham Journal.*

Artificial Marble.—We learn from an American paper that a method of manufacturing marble has been discovered, which is pronounced superior to any other artificial stone or marble in use; it will supersede the use of lime mortar in the varied processes of plastering; and will be extensively used in stucco work, mosaic statuary, mantel-pieces, table-slabs, atmospheric and hydraulic cement, roofing of houses, paving of streets, &c. It will set or harden in six hours when applied to plastering houses. It will resist the action of atmospheric heat, damp, frost, &c., is susceptible of a high polish, and can be manufactured at a cost little exceeding ordinary lime mortar.—*Hull Packet.*

On Tuesday evening a new bell, weighing 25 cwts., was fixed in the belfry of St. Saviour's, Southwark. The tackling broke, and the bell fell from a height of 56 feet, crushing the stairs and banisters. The bell on being tried was found uninjured.

The Iron Trade.—In consequence of a strike, on the part of the workmen in Scotland, iron has risen from 3s. 6d. to 4s. per ton.

The price of gas is to be reduced from the 30th inst. to 7s. per 1,000 cubic feet by the leading gas companies in London.—*Standard.*

It is in contemplation to erect a bridge from Redcliffe back to the Grove, Bristol.

Tenders.

Tenders delivered for painting the whole of the exterior of the Licensed Victuallers' School, Kennington-lane.—June 27.

Weeks	£100	0	0
Webbs	94	10	0
Cooke	59	19	0
Odey	57	0	0
Saunderson	55	0	0
Davies	50	0	0
Johnson	49	0	0
Emmett	27	10	0

The lowest tender was accepted.

NOTICES OF CONTRACTS.

For building Sewers.—Plans &c., Mr. Daw, Sewers Office, Guildhall. 9th July.

For the erection of a Building on the premises of the Workhouse of the parish of St. Mary, Newington.—Plan, &c., Mr. Edmonds, Surveyor, Bridge-street, Southwark. 15th July.

For certain alterations and additions to the Treadwheels, and for Air Pumps to be connected therewith, and also for certain Hand Crank Machines for hand labour at Norwich Castle.—Drawings &c., at the Castle.—Further information, Mr. Brown, County Surveyor, Norwich. 19th July.

For erecting a Farm House, &c., at Court Graban, in the county of Radnor.—Plans, &c., Edward Fowke, at Glanhenwye, near Hay.

For erecting a Farm House at Trehendre, in county of Brecon.—Plans, &c., Mr. Fowke.

For reinstating Dwelling House and Building Great Thurlow, Suffolk.—Further particul Messrs. Newton and Woodrow, Land Age Norwich.

Current Prices of Metals.

June 28, 1844.

	£. s. d.	£. s.
Spelter.—On the spot per ton	21 10 0	to 21 15
,, For arrival	21 5 0	— 21 10
Zinc—English sheet	0 0 0	— 30 0
Quicksilver ... per lb.		0 4
Iron—English bar, bolt, and square ... per ton	6 5 0	— 6 10
,, Nail rods	0 0 0	— 7 5
,, Hoops	8 0 0	— 8 10
,, Sheets, single	0 0 0	— 9 0
,, ,, double	0 0 0	— 10 10
,, ,, treble	0 0 0	— 12 0
,, Bars in Wales	5 10 0	— 5 15
,, Pig, No. 1, Welsh	3 10 0	— 4 0
,, No. 1, Clyde	3 5 0	— 3 7
,, For., Swedish	9 5 0	— 9 10
Steel—Swedish keg, p. ton	16 0 0	— 16 10
,, ,, Faggot	0 0 0	— 17 0
Copper—Sheet and sheathing, p. lb.	—	0 0
,, Old ... ditto.		0 0
,, Tough Cakep. ton	0 0 0	— 82 10
,, Tile	0 0 0	— 81 10
,, Chili	72 0 0	— 74 0
Tin—English, block, p. ton	0 0 0	— 3 13
,, ,, bar	0 0 0	— 3 13
,, Foreign, Banca	0 0 0	— 3 5
,, ,, Straits	0 0 0	— 3 3
,, ,, Peruvian	0 0 0	— 3 0
Tin plates, No. IC. p. box	1 7 6	— 1 13
,, ,, No. IX.	1 13 6	— 1 19
Lead—English pig (London) ... per ton	0 0 0	— 16 15
,, ,, (Liverpool)	0 0 0	— 16 0
,, Spanish (London)	0 0 0	— 16 10
,, American (London)	0 0 0	— 0 0
,, ,, (Liverpool)	0 0 0	— 15 15
,, Sheet (London)	0 0 0	— 17 15
,, Red	0 0 0	— 21 10
,, White	0 0 0	— 23 10
,, Shot, patent	0 0 0	— 19 15

At Liverpool, the several descriptions of English Iron are quoted at from 5s. to 7s. 6d. per ton, a Tin Plates (IC. and IX.) 1s. per box, less th in London.

Spelter on the spot has been in fair dema during the week, and several parcels have chang hands at 21*l.* 5s., 21*l.* 7s. 6d., and 21*l.* 10s., a there are no sellers now under 21*l.* 15s. For delivery in August and September, there is a seller 21*l.* 10s., and no buyers above 21*l.* 5s.

English Iron has undergone no alterati since our last. Scotch Pig Iron at Glasg is rather easier this week, a parcel having be offered by a speculator at 64s., net cash, but makers will not sell under 70s. Swedish Ir and Steel continue flat, and lower prices have be accepted;—the former has been sold at 9*l.* 5s., a a parcel of the latter was sold at 16*l.* Holders n demand 16*l.* 10s.

Copper and Tin have undergone no alteratio Tin Plates continue in good demand.

English and Foreign Pig Lead still dull sale.

SHORT and MAHONY, *Brokers,*
1, *Newman's-court, Cornhill.*

ADVERTISEMENTS.

TRACING PAPER.—SAMPLES fo warded by Post free.—WATERLOW and SONS, LONDON-WALL, having devoted much attention to t manufacturing of the above article, have succeeded in pr ducing a Paper superior to any yet introduced, combin the great requisites of clearness and a surface warranted work well with pencil, ink, and colour. The following the cash prices:—

Double Crown .... 30 by 20, 3s. per quire.. 2*l.* 10s. per rea
Double Dble. do.. 40 by 30, 6s. ,, ..5*l.* ,,
Dble. Dble. Dble. do. 60 by 40, 12s. ,, ..11*l.* ,,

Outsides, half-price.

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